

Equal Justice Under the Law . . . the watchwords of our constitutional faith. In other words, it is the purpose of the Bill of Rights and Due Process to make all citizens self-governing and equally secure against any arbitrary and unlawful intrusion, private or public. The Bill of Rights was born in controversy and lives in controversy. Due Process of law is to be observed in emergencies as well as in conditions of safety.

Harold Norris also is a sensitive poet whose work has been praised by Archibald MacLeish and Theodore H. White. White said Norris' poetry is "infused with an almost forgotten sense of love—love of country and of people, love of America's monuments and places, love of its future and heroes."

Professor Norris' poem, "The Liberty Bell" hangs in the lobby of the Detroit College of Law and in the public lobby of Philadelphia's Independence National Park's Administration Building, the home of the Liberty Bell.

In a moving tribute to civil rights legend Rosa Parks, Norris wrote in part: "I will walk. My will is responsible. I am this nation. This nation is what I do. It will not be done. Unless I do it. This nation is determination. This nation is conduct. Conduct with a free will. During his career, numerous groups have honored Professor Norris with awards and commendations. Included among these awards are the National Judge Finch Law Day Speech Award from the American Bar Association for his address on "Law, the Language of Liberty," the "Champion of Justice Award" by the State Bar of Michigan and the "Distinguished Warrior for Civil Rights Award" by the Detroit Urban League.

In 1987, the Michigan supreme court presented him with a citation for his vision, faith, and commitment that have inspired a lifetime of contributions to the jurisprudence of our State. In that citation, he was aptly described as a lawyer, educator, poet, and statesman.

Professor Norris enjoyed a unique and beautiful relationship with his wife, Frances, whose death in 1990 ended a forty-seven year marriage.

Their son, Victor, recently provided one of a most telling and insightful assessment of Pro-

fessor Norris. Asked to describe his father, Victor said:

"Even if he wasn't my father, I would say that I have never known anyone who on a minute-by-minute, day-by-day basis feels so responsible to his country and to making it a better place to be."

When Professor Norris' name is mentioned, the most respected and successful lawyers and judges in Detroit say he shaped their law perspective about justice and led them to understand that the Bill of Rights is a living document that must be protected by those who practice both justice and the law.

Harold Norris' presence has made this a better, stronger, and more decent Nation. During a teaching career that spanned four decades, he touched the lives of thousands of lawyers who now carry on his mission of our Nation.

One of Professor Norris' last acts at Detroit College of Law was to create and to help fund the Harold Norris Colloquium, which is an annual even that will explore key issues in the fields of constitutional law, civil rights, and civil liberties.

Detroit, the State of Michigan, and the United States are deeply indebted to Professor Harold Norris—humanitarian, lawyer, teacher, and poet. Because of his appreciation and understanding of the living power of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights, generations of citizens have been able to live with a greater measure of freedom, opportunity, and dignity. I am pleased that my family and his have been friends, neighbors, and leaders in helping define and resolve the issues that yet may make this form of government great.

#### PASS THE FOREIGN AID BILL

HON. PETER DEUTSCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, January 3, 1996*

Mr. DEUTSCH. Mr. Speaker, for the past several months, the House Republican leader-

ship have stubbornly help up the entire foreign aid package, including MEPFA and aid to Israel, in order to score political points on a domestic political issue.

Unfortunately, this intransigence has put the three most vital benefits of foreign aid to Israel in serious jeopardy. First, without delivering foreign aid by January 1, the economic stability of Israel could be threatened. The Israeli Government will come dangerously close to defaulting on its financial commitments. Moreover, funding for a variety of social projects in the region will be imperiled including money earmarked for roads, housing and hospitals.

Second, the failure to pass the foreign aid bill will have a serious impact on the American economy. It is a little known fact that 83 percent of all aid to Israel is spent here in the United States creating good jobs for Americans. Without passage of the foreign aid legislation, billions of dollars that would have been injected into the American economy will be lost.

Third, failure to pass the foreign aid bill will endanger the fragile Middle East peace process. Both Israel and the Palestinians rely heavily on American aid to stabilize their domestic economies. Eliminating this funding will encourage extremism in both societies and threaten all of the hard fought progress that has occurred over the last several years.

On a practical level, the United States has a choice between either providing aid to Israel or sustaining a large military presence in the Middle East. I urge the House Republican leadership to negotiate a compromise on this legislation and pass the foreign aid bill. Without some type of action, we are in jeopardy of seriously undermining the peace process in the Middle East.